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Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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Peaceful uses of nuclear energy

Working paper submitted by China

1. The peaceful use of nuclear energy is an inalienable right of the States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. Measures to enhance the peaceful uses of nuclear energy will be conducive to the full attainment of the objectives of the Treaty and to the enhancement of the confidence of international community to participate in the nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation process.

2. The peaceful uses of nuclear energy and nuclear non-proliferation are complementary. Both are important and should be treated on equal footing. Efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons should not undermine the legitimate rights of parties, particularly developing countries, to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

3. To encourage the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and international cooperation is one of the important goals of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Developed countries and the Agency should strengthen the assistance to developing countries in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy based on their actual needs.

4. The International Atomic Energy Agency should continue to play a central role in promoting the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The Agency should ensure balance between nuclear safeguards and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy in accordance with its statute. Member States should actively support the Agency's technical cooperation activities to ensure adequate and predictable resources for technical cooperation.

5. Nuclear energy is important to energy security and climate change. China is steadily promoting the construction of nuclear power in an orderly manner and will continue to make contributions to the development of nuclear energy in the world. China has always attached great importance to nuclear safety and will further improve the nuclear safety regulatory system. China will ensure the safe and reliable operation of nuclear facilities through effective safety supervision and scientific management, in order to enhance public confidence in the development of nuclear energy. Utilizing the National Research and Development Centre for

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Nuclear and Radiation Safety and Security Monitoring Technologies, we will help others enhance their capacity in security monitoring and contribute our share to enhancing nuclear power safety and security worldwide.

6. Strengthening the international nuclear security system is a basic prerequisite for the healthy development of nuclear energy. China attaches great importance to nuclear security and resolutely opposes nuclear terrorism. The international community should adhere to the rational, coordinated and progressive nuclear security concept, step up political input, pool international consensus, stick to the direction of addressing both symptoms and root causes and advance global security governance. We should step up national responsibility, plan and implement nuclear security strategy and tighten up a line of defence that is sustainable. We should also step up international cooperation, forge a community of shared future on nuclear security and enhance the momentum of coordination for common progress. All parties should also step up the culture of nuclear security and create an atmosphere of joint efforts and shared benefits.

7. China will build a network for capacity-building on nuclear security, use existing platforms, including the Centre of Excellence on Nuclear Security and the China Customs Radiation Detection Training Centre, to carry out the training of nuclear security professionals, exercises and exchanges regarding nuclear security technologies and other activities. China welcomes the participation of Asia-Pacific countries, countries along the Belt and Road route and other developing countries in relevant projects, and will stay in close cooperation with IAEA.